ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention comprises a scheduling assist function (scheduling assist) that enables a processor to schedule events and be notified when these events expire. In addition, the present invention includes features that enable a processor to associate these events with output channels and enable the processor to quickly locate output channels (links) that are available and ready to be serviced. The invention takes advantage of the fact that the scheduling assist can be dedicated exclusively to scanning tables in its own dedicated memories looking for events that have expired and/or output channels that are available and not involve the processor in the search for output channels that are available and ready to be serviced.